

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform their Representative of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In mid-December, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

Last year, the board interviewed over 30 applicants. Nominations included 12 to the Naval Academy, 11 to the Military Academy, 5 to the Air Force Academy, and 2 to the Merchant Marine Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the congressional nomination process. The Board then forwards their recommendations to the academies by January 31, where recruiters review files and notify applicants and my office of their final decisions on admission.

It is both reassuring and rewarding to know that many of our military officers hail from our hometowns or close by. When we consider the role of these officers in peace or war, we can rest easier knowing that the best and brightest are in command. Wherever they are sent, be that Bosnia, Somalia, Haiti or Vietnam, many of these officers have academy training.

And while a few people may question the motivations and ambitions of some young people, the academy review process shows that the large majority of our graduates are just as highly motivated as the generation before them. They still seek guidance from loving parents, dedicated teachers and schools, and from trusted clergy and rabbis. Indeed, every time I visit a school, speak at a college, or meet a young academy nominee, I am constantly reminded that we as a nation are blessed with fine young men and women.

Their willingness and desire to serve their country is perhaps the most persuasive evidence of all.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 1999—11TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT NEW JERSEY
AIR FORCE

Donald Cardell, Sparta, Sparta High School; Eric Dekelbaum, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Corrie Morris, Landing, Roxbury High School; Matthew Steenman, Mendham, St. Charles Prep; Sarah Willson, Rockaway, Morris Catholic High School.

MERCHANT MARINES

Patricia Larkin, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Matthew Sloomaker, Lincoln Park, Mountain Lakes High School.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Joseph Barchetto, Rockaway, Morris Knolls High School; Jonathan Cozens, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Brandon Devlin, Livingston, Livingston High School; Radford Fagan, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Bryan Gallagher, Rockaway, Morris Knolls High School; Janet Howson, Madison, Madison High School; Michael Kay, North Caldwell, Newark Academy; Charles Larsen, Hopatcong, Hopatcong High School; Christopher MacDonald, Sterling, Watchung Hills

High School; Peter Steciuk, Convent Station, Oratory Prep; John Jiger, Basking Ridge, Immaculata High School.

NAVAL ACADEMY

John Ascione, Whippany, Whippany Park High School; Guy Budinsak, Jr., Bridgewater, Bridgewater/Raritan High School; Katherine Comer, Basking Ridge, Academy of Saint Elizabeth; Monica Haba, North Caldwell, West Essex High School; Damien Harder, Sparta, Sparta High School; Thomas Kennedy, Pompton Plains, Pequannock High School; Edana Kleinhans, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Thomas Mancinelli, Pompton Plains, Pequannock High School; Erin Marshall, Kinnelon, Kinnelon High School; Christopher McFadden, Chatham, Chatham High School; James Poggio, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Brian Ritter, Florham Park, Bayley-Elland.

IN HONOR OF ZULIMA FARBER
AND JOAN VERPLANCK, WIN-
NERS OF THE BARBARA BOGGS
SIGMUND AWARDS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Zulima Farber and Joan Verplanck for being awarded the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey's Barbara Boggs Sigmund Award for their outstanding contributions to New Jersey and their trailblazing efforts on behalf of women.

For over 20 years Zulima Farber has faithfully defended and been an advocate for New Jersey's neediest citizens. From 1992 to 1994, Ms. Farber was appointed Public Advocate and Public Defender for the State of New Jersey. As a member of Governor Florio's cabinet, she faithfully advocated the interests of the public in all policy matters. Specifically, she led efforts to regulate utility rates and protect the developmentally disabled, consumers of mental health services, and abused children. She also oversaw a major overhaul of the management of Public Defender Offices.

Being New Jersey's Public Advocate was Ms. Farber's most public position, but many are not aware of the other aspects of her remarkable career. As a young woman, her family fled Castro-controlled Cuba and settled in New Jersey. In order to support her family and fund her college education, Ms. Farber got a job as a secretary in a law firm of my hometown of Union City, New Jersey. After completing an undergraduate and masters degree from Montclair State, Ms. Farber received her JD degree from Rutgers Law School in Newark. At Rutgers Law she became a founding member of and vice-president of the Association of Latin American Law Students.

After law school Ms. Farber pursued a successful career as a prosecutor in Bergen County, was named Assistant Counsel to Governor Byrne and then became the first female partner of the renowned firm Lowenstein, Sandler.

Zulima Farber is a member of the State Court Advisory Committee on Ethics, the Fairleigh Dickinson University Board of Trustees, the Meadowlands Hospital Board of Trustees and the State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Joan Verplanck was elected the first ever female president of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce in December, 1994. In this position she has served as a powerful advocate for our state's business interests and through her leadership, local and regional chambers of commerce have coordinated their efforts to form a grass-roots network in support of business issues.

Ms. Verplanck was also instrumental in the creation of the State Chamber Education Foundation which is facilitating science and technology training for New Jersey's schools. Prior to her election as president of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, she accumulated 18 years of experience managing local chambers of commerce, including 8 years as the president of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Verplanck is also a member of the board of directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to her outstanding service through the Chamber of Commerce, Joan Verplanck also twice chaired the State's conference on women and she currently serves on the Board of Advisors for Management Education at Rutgers University, the New Jersey Employment Security Council and the Dredging Project Facilitation Task Force.

These women, Zulima Farber and Joan Verplanck, exemplify the principles which Barbara Boggs Sigmund stood for as a Mayor, a freeholder and a public servant. For these tremendous contributions to New Jersey and their incredible example as public servants, I cannot think of two people more deserving of the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey's Barbara Boggs Sigmund Award. I salute them and congratulate them on this accomplishment.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR KARL KUBB

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mayor Karl Kubb for his dedication and commitment to the people of Fairview Park, Ohio.

Karl Kubb has dedicated his life to helping people. He served as Ward 4 Councilman for four years and Council President for six years. Mayor Kubb has also served on various political and civil committees during his career. He has served as Community Council President and initiated and became the first president of the Chamber of Commerce in Fairview Park. Mayor Kubb was the President and Vice President of the Democratic Club and an Executive Commander of the American Legion.

Mayor Karl Kubb is a proven public servant. He has dedicated his life to improving the lives of the citizens of Fairview Park. He is a man of enormous talent and vision. His contributions to the citizens of Fairview Park have been noteworthy.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting a man who has dedicated his life to improving the lives of the people of Fairview Park.